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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

Alex M. Gernert and Daniel L. Scheve.

Filed: Herewith

Serial No. [Not yet assigned; this application is a divisional of co-pending application SN 09/166,816 filed October 5, 1998]

For: DATA RECONCILIATION BETWEEN A COMPUTER AND A MOBILE DATA COLLECTION TERMINAL

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

"Express Mail" mailing label no: EL575423369US

Date of Deposit: October 10, 2000

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LRSalazar
Lola R. Salazar

CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a request for filing under the Continuing Application Procedure, 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b); for a divisional application of prior application Serial No. 09/166,816, naming inventor(s) Alex M. Gernert, Richard S. Walters, Daniel L. Scheve, Alan Herrod, John R. Klein, Nathaniel R. Gold, Robert Sanders, Altaf Mulla, and Gregory G. Jones on behalf of Symbol

Technologies, Inc., entitled, "DATA RECONCILIATION BETWEEN A COMPUTER AND A MOBILE DATA COLLECTION TERMINAL", including Utility Patent Application Transmittal, 19 pages of specification, 8 pages of claims, 11 sheets of drawing figures, and 1 pages of Abstract. Also enclosed herewith is a copy of the original executed Assignment and Combined Declaration/Power of Attorney.

The attorney's Docket Number of this application is SYM-606C.

Kindly address all communications regarding this application to:

Marc S. Hanish
D'Alessandro & Ritchie
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, California 95164-0640
Telephone (408) 441-1100

Please find enclosed two checks one the amount of \$690.00 for the filing fee for a large entity and one check in the amount of \$130.00 for an "Amendment, Petition and Fee Deleting Correctly Named Persons who are not Inventors of Invention Now being Claimed – Non provisional Application", calculated as follows:

Basic Filing Fee:	\$690.00
<u>Petition to delete Inventors</u>	<u>\$130.00</u>
Total Filing Fee:	\$820.00

In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 04-0025. A duplicate of this page is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
D'ALESSANDRO & RITCHIE



Marc S. Hanish
Reg. No. 42,626

Dated: 16/10/00

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Alex M. Gernert and Daniel L. Scheve.

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COMPUTER AND A MOBILE DATA
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Lola R. Salazar
Lola R. Salazar

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Title

Please replace "DATA RECONSILIATION BETWEEN A COMPUTER AND A
MOBILE DATA COLLETION TERMINAL" with --COMMUNICATION IN A
WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK WHEN A MOBILE COMPUTER
TERMINAL MAY BE UNREACHABLE--.

In the Specification

On page 18, line 19, please replace "use" with --user--.

On page 7, line 15 through page 8, line 19, please replace:

"A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal which provides an efficient way of running a computer network where the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of: configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal; transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and transferring said data structure to the host computer over the wireless communications network.

The method also provides for a way to ensure that the application program running on the host computer handles data received from the at least one mobile computer terminals when one of the mobile computer terminals goes out of range of the wireless network, comprising the steps of: establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network; determining in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals, that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded and switching to batch mode to continue data

collection." with:

--A method and apparatus for communication between a mobile computer terminal and a host computer in a system in which it is necessary for the mobile computer terminal to send a message to the host computer at a particular time. The specific time at which the mobile computer terminal must send a message to the host computer is first determined. Then, a timer or clock is programmed to wake up the mobile computer terminal at the specific time. A sleep mode may be entered, which may be interrupted at the specific time to send the message. This will normally allow a mobile computer terminal to maintain its lease on an IP address despite being out of range of a wireless network. --

In the Claims

Kindly cancel claims 1-26 and 30-34 without prejudice.

Kindly add new claims 35-41 as follows.

35. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said message is a lease renewal message.

36. (New) The method of claim 29, further including the step of:
resetting said timer or clock for a next scheduled beg time if the mobile computer is out of range of communications with the host computer.

37. (New) A mobile computer terminal including:
a communications module for communication with a host computer in a system;
means for determining the specific time at which the mobile computer terminal must send a message to the host computer;
means for programming a timer or clock to wake up the mobile computer terminal

at said specific time; and

means for entering a sleep mode.

38. (New) The mobile computer terminal of claim 37, wherein said system is a system utilizing the limited leasing of IP addresses and said message is a message begging for more time.

39. (New) The mobile computer terminal of claim 38, further including:

means for determining if the mobile computer is out of range of communications with the host computer; and

means for displaying a message on the mobile computer indicating to the user that the mobile computer must be brought back into range of communications with the host computer or else said leased IP address may be forfeited.

40. (New) The mobile computer terminal of claim 37, wherein said message is a lease renewal message.

41. (New) The mobile computer terminal of claim 39, further including:

means for resetting said timer or clock for a next scheduled beg time if the mobile computer is out of range of communications with the host computer.

In the Abstract

On page 28, lines 2-26, please replace:

"A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal which provides an efficient way of running a computer network where

the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of: configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal; transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and transferring said data structure to the host computer over the wireless communications network.

The method also provides for a way to ensure that the application program running on the host computer handles data received from the at least one mobile computer terminals when one of the mobile computer terminals goes out of range of the wireless network, comprising the steps of: establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network; determining in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals, that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded and switching to batch mode to continue data collection." with:

--A method and apparatus for communication between a mobile computer terminal and a host computer in a system in which it is necessary for the mobile computer terminal to send a message to the host computer at a particular time. The specific time at which the mobile computer terminal must send a message to the host computer is first determined. Then, a timer or clock is programmed to wake up the mobile computer

terminal at the specific time. A sleep mode may be entered, which may be interrupted at the specific time to send the message. This will normally allow a mobile computer terminal to maintain its lease on an IP address despite being out of range of a wireless network.--

REMARKS

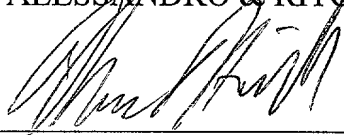
Claims 35-41 have been added to further particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention. It is submitted that the proposed amendments to specification and claims do not constitute new matter or are such to require reexamination.

Specifically, new claims 35 and 40 have support in the specification on page 19, lines 7-8. New claims 36 and 41 have support in the specification on page 19, lines 4-7. New claims 37-39 have support in the specification on page 18, line 25 through page 19, line 14.

Additionally, since claims have been deleted, there are some inventors who were listed on the parent application who no longer should be listed on the invention as presently claimed. Accordingly, an Amendment, Petition, and Fee Deleting Correctly Named Person(s) Who Are Not Inventor(s) of Invention Now Being Claimed accompanies this document.

In view of the foregoing, consideration and an early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
D'ALESSANDRO & RITCHIE



Marc S. Hanish
Reg. No. 42,626

Dated: October 10, 2000

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This application is submitted in the names of inventors Alex M. Gernert, Richard S. Walters, Daniel L. Scheve, Alan Herrod, John R. Klein, Nathaniel R. Gold, Robert Sanders, Altaf Mulla, and Gregory G. Jones, all assignors to Symbol Technologies, Inc., a Delaware corporation.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

DATA RECONCILIATION BETWEEN A COMPUTER AND A MOBILE DATA COLLECTION TERMINAL

B A C K G R O U N D O F T H E I N V E N T I O N

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of computer data base processing. More specifically, the present invention relates to data formatting, data base updating, synchronization and reconciliation between a host or server computer and mobile data collection terminals.

2. The Background Art

Computer client/server systems have been designed which utilize a host computer and one or more mobile terminals. The host computer may be a mainframe computer, while the mobile terminals are usually hand held, less powerful portable computers. By using less powerful mobile terminals, it is possible to reduce the size and cost of each terminal. This can be accomplished by having systems which require the terminals to emulate more sophisticated desktop terminals and perform only specific tasks or

processes required by the host computer.

One application such terminals are particularly suited for is data collection. Bar code symbols or other forms of data may be entered at a mobile terminal and then
5 transferred to a host computer for processing or manipulation. There are many types of tasks that may be performed by mobile terminals, and data collection is only one example.

10 Additionally, data collection and other uses for mobile terminals may not necessarily be stationary tasks. Many times, the user inputting the data must move around in order to properly collect the data. For example, if a user wanted to perform inventory tasks, they may walk around a warehouse full of boxes to count and visually inspect each box. Then they would have to return to a fixed mobile terminal to input the data. It would be much more efficient if the user could bring the mobile terminal with
15 him as he performed the inventory tasks and enter each piece of data as he receives it.

The advent of wireless technology and the miniaturization of the computer has allowed for palmtop or other small computers, running on a wireless network, to be used in data collection and other tasks. An example of such a device is disclosed in Herrod et.
20 al., U.S. Patent No. 5,604,516, hereby expressly incorporated by reference. The user may carry the mobile terminal around with him and input data as necessary.

A mobile computer network is depicted in FIG. 1. Host computer 10 may be connected to one or more mobile computer terminals 12, 14 through a wireless
25 communications network. Communication may be accomplished using RF signals with the host computer connected in a local network along with stationary base stations (or "access points") 16. The mobile computer terminals 12, 14 each have their own

transmitter/receiver 18, 20, respectively, which communicate to and from the access points. The access points may be placed at various points around an area in which the mobile computer terminals can communicate with the host computer. For example, access points may be placed at various places around a warehouse if the mobile computer terminals are to be used for inventory tasks. When a mobile computer terminal 12 is in the range of one of the access points, connection and association may be established between the transmitter/receiver 18 of the mobile computer terminal 12 and the access point 16. However, if a mobile computer terminal 14 is out of range of one of the access point 16, connection and association between the transmitter/receiver 20 of the mobile computer and an access point 16 is not established. Examples of similar communications systems are disclosed in Tymes, U.S. Patent No. 5,029,183, Tymes et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,280,498, Heiman et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,528,621, and Tymes, U.S. Patent No. 5,668,803, all hereby expressly incorporated by reference.

In Tymes, U.S. Patent No. 5,029,183, a packet data communication network is described where remote terminals may link to intermediate base stations through wireless RF communication wherein a packet is transmitted during a first time period and an acknowledge packet is received during a second time period occurring only at a selected time delay after the first time period. In Tymes et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,280,498, a packet data communication network is described where remote terminals may link to intermediate base stations through wireless RF communication wherein a packet is transmitted during a first time period and an acknowledge packet is received during a second time period occurring only at a selected time delay after the first time period, with the acknowledge packet including a number sequence used to decode the packet. In Tymes, U.S. Patent No. 5,668,803, a packet data communication network is described where remote terminals may link to intermediate base stations through wireless RF communication wherein a packet is transmitted during a first time period and an

acknowledge packet is received during a second time period occurring only at a selected time delay after the first time period and a remote unit is alerted that a message is waiting to be picked up by including a message in an acknowledge packet. In Heiman et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,528,621, a packet data communication network is described where

5 remote terminals may link to intermediate base stations through wireless RF communication utilizing a frequency-hopping transmission method, with the base stations returning reply packets containing synchronization information. Communication may also be accomplished using other wireless communications technologies.

10 It is common to run an application on the host computer 10 that requires data be entered in a certain format or sequence, or more specifically, a form or template having certain data entry fields within the application fills a host database 22 with data collected on the mobile computer terminals. A problem arises, however, in that the data collected on the mobile computer terminals may not be in the proper format for simple insertion
15 into data entry fields of the application running on the host computer. For example, an inventory database application program may currently be running on the host computer and that application may require that both an address field (in alphanumeric form) and a zip code (in numeric form) be filled for items in inventory. The data will eventually be stored in a host database 22. This data may be acquired by scanning bar code symbols
20 off of each item in inventory. When the user scans the bar code symbols into the mobile computer terminal, the terminal may have no way of knowing in what order the application is requesting the data entry fields be filled (e.g. does he enter address then zip code or zip code then address?).

25 Additionally, the mobile computer terminal may not know what types of data to collect. In the above example, it may not know if it is supposed to accept address and zip code data, or address and phone number data.

In the past, these problems were remedied using one of two approaches. First, the mobile computer terminal could be set up in advance to accept only certain types of data, and only in a specific order. For example, the mobile computer terminal may be set up to receive only address and zip code information, and only in that order. This approach, however, limits the flexibility of the system in that once the mobile computer terminal is set up, it may be difficult or impossible to alter the input types. A problem occurs if the user suddenly decides that the name of the product should be entered as well, or that the zip code is no longer necessary.

The second approach to these problems is to run a special application or applications on the mobile computer terminal. This application could convert the data into the proper format, or alter the ordering of the received data to match that of the requirements of the application running on the host computer. This approach, however, uses up valuable processing power and memory space on the mobile computer terminal.

Another problem that arises in such wireless computer networks occurs when a user gets cut off from the network. The most common cause of this problem is when a user walks to a point that is out of range of the wireless transmitter/receivers or access points. However, this problem may also be encountered due to electromagnetic interference as well as other problems that may interfere with the wireless network.

These interruptions can cause serious problems in the case of wireless data collection. If the mobile computer terminal is used to collect data and transmit data to a host computer, and an interruption occurs, the mobile computer terminal may continue to transmit its information. This may result in the loss of information since the data transmitted during this interruption is never received by the host computer. This may

cause drastic consequences. For example, if the host computer is running an inventory application, the data lost during the interruption causes the inventory count to be incorrect. Additionally, it may be difficult or impossible to determine at what point the interruption occurred or which data was being input at that time, so the entire inventory procedure may have to be restarted due to even a short interruption in the wireless network.

Another problem that potentially arises when a user gets cut off from the network occurs where data collected by the mobile terminal is time sensitive. For example, in a wireless computer network set up for a taxi service, each taxicab may periodically send information as to its location to a host computer for use in aiding in dispatching. Suppose connection with one of the taxicabs is broken at time t_1 , and the taxicab checks in with its location at time t_2 . Then at time t_3 , connection is re-established. The data sent to the host computer will represent the location of the taxicab at time t_2 , but the host computer will not know if the data it receives represents the location of the taxi-cab at time t_2 or t_3 . This may be referred to as a "data freshness" problem.

Another potential "data freshness" problem occurs in the case where the mobile data terminals may be sending data which "competes" with data from other mobile data terminals. An example of this is the case where the host computer maintains an inventory list of manufactured goods and the mobile computer terminals are used to make sales of those goods and reserve the goods for shipment. If there exist only ten manufactured units of a specific good (as tracked by the host computer database), and a first mobile computer terminal processes a sale for ten units of a specific good at time t_1 , while a second mobile computer terminal processes a sale for ten units for a specific good at time t_2 , then ideally, the customer from the sale on the first mobile computer terminal will have his goods shipped immediately, while the customer from the sale on the second

mobile computer terminal will have his goods placed on backorder until more of the goods can be manufactured. However, if the first mobile computer terminal went out of range between t_1 and t_2 , and connection was not re-established until after t_2 , then the wrong customer will have his goods backordered.

5

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an application that can easily handle the formatting and ordering issues that arise when data is input into a mobile computer terminal for eventual incorporation into an application located on a host computer.

10

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an application that prevents the loss of data when interruptions in the wireless network occur.

15

It is a further object of the present invention to provide an application that can easily handle freshness issues.

20

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal which provides an efficient way of running a computer network where the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application

25

program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of: configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer;

5 utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal; transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and transferring said data structure to

10 the host computer over the wireless communications network.

The method also provides for a way to ensure that the application program running on the host computer handles data received from the at least one mobile computer terminals when one of the mobile computer terminals goes out of range of the wireless

15 network, comprising the steps of: establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network; determining in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals, that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded and switching to batch mode to continue data

20 collection.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating a mobile computer network.

25 FIG. 2 is a flow diagram depicting a method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram depicting a method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal designed to accept bar code symbols as input in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention.

5

FIG. 4 is a flow diagram depicting a method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal third embodiment of the present invention.

10

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Those of ordinary skill in the art will realize that the following description of the present invention is illustrative only and not in any way limiting. Other embodiments of the invention will readily suggest themselves to such skilled persons.

15

20

FIG. 2 is a flow diagram depicting the typical data flow between a sender and a receiver in a network environment. At 30, an application sends information to a user buffer 32, which is then read back using protocol modules 34. The data is then buffered through a kernel 36 before sent through an interface 38 to a network media access control (MAC) 40. Similarly, when data is received by a Network MAC 42 in an interface 44, it is subsequently buffered through a kernel 46, read out by protocol modules 48, passed into a user buffer 50 and eventually used by an application 52.

25

Data is generally passed through a network in the form of packets. Each packet contains a header containing various information to be used the hardware and software associated with a network in determining how to handle each packet. One such packet is depicted in FIG. 3, including a header portion 60 and a data portion 62.

FIG. 4 depicts a method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention. This embodiment allows the host computer application to switch from application to application, and to implement new applications, without having the mobile computer terminal set up in advance to handle a specific formatting scheme.

At step 80, the operating characteristics of the at least one mobile computer terminal are configured to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer. At step 82, the at least one mobile computer terminal is utilized to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal. At step 84, the acquired data is transformed into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with the data characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer. Finally, at step 86, the data structure is transferred to the host computer over a wireless network.

FIG. 5 depicts a method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal designed to accept bar code symbols as input in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention. This may include utilizing one-dimensional bar code symbols (as known in the art) as well as two-dimensional bar code symbols, such as PDF417 bar code symbol. Two dimensional bar code symbols generally reduce the height of traditional one-dimensional symbols, and then stacking distinct rows of such one dimensional symbols. Therefore, two-dimensional bar code symbols can store much more information than traditional one-dimensional bar code symbols (a single PDF417 symbol may carry up to 1.1 kilobytes of machine readable data in a space no larger than a standard bar code symbol).

Additionally, unlike traditional one-dimensional bar code symbols, which represent a pointer or address to a database, PDF417 symbols are the database itself.

5 A PDF417 symbol contains several fields, each field separated from the next field by a character. It is then possible for an application program to properly parse the data obtained from the bar code symbols into the fields of the application for eventual entry into the database.

10 Referring to FIG. 5, at step 100, the operating characteristics of the at least one mobile computer terminal are configured to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer. This may comprise configuring the operating characteristics so the mobile computer terminal acts as a terminal emulator as is known in the prior art. Commands are sent from the host to the mobile computer terminal indicating which in which mode of emulation the terminal should be. For example, it may be advantageous to have a bar code scanning system which is capable of scanning several different types of bar code symbols. Therefore, the host may send a "0" if PDF417 scanning should be disabled (for scanning one dimensional bar code symbols). It may send a "1" if the terminal should be in contiguous mode only, where scanned PDF417 bar code symbols are a single block in an input field, 15 limited to 500 bytes or less. It may send a "2" if the terminal should be in large mode only, which allows scanning of single PDF417 bar code symbols larger than 500 bytes and multiple, linked PDF417 bar code symbols to form one contiguous data block by storing the data in a file on a RAM disk on the terminal which is sent to the host computer as a single file. It may send a "3" if the terminal should be in separator mode 20 only, which allows the data scanned from one PDF417 bar code symbol to fill in a multiple field terminal emulation screen form by the host examining the bar code symbol for a separator character to indicate where the data breaks are to fill the fields. The

terminal may then respond by sending a message to the host when it has received the command mode information and is ready to begin scanning data.

At step 102, the at least one mobile computer terminal is utilized to automatically
5 acquire data from bar code symbols at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal. How the data is acquired depends on how the terminal was configured (in the case of PDF417 bar code symbol readers, which mode the terminal is acting in). An additional step may be added here for validity checking. This permits the system to make sure all of the fields in the scanned
10 bar code symbol and the application match. A separator mode PDF417 bar code symbol that is scanned in may contain ten fields, while the application may contain only nine. The user could then be alerted that the bar code symbol is in the wrong format (or that there was an error in scanning) to prevent erroneous data from being entered into the application. At step 104, the acquired data is transformed into a data structure in the
15 mobile computer terminal in accordance with the data characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer. Finally, at step 106, the data structure is transferred to the host computer over a wireless network.

FIG. 6 depicts another embodiment of the present invention. It is possible to avoid
20 the potential loss of data that occurs when a mobile computer terminal goes out of range of the access points or communication is otherwise impeded by equipping each mobile computer terminal 120, 122 with a database 124, 126. When the mobile computer terminal goes out of range of all the access points 128, all data collected during that time is stored in the mobile computer terminal database 124, 126. When the mobile computer
25 terminal re-establishes a connection, the data collected may be uploaded to the host computer 130 via the transmitter/receiver 132, 134 for eventual storage in the host database 136 without any loss of data. This process may be referred to as switching to

batch mode. This method is depicted in FIG. 7.

At step 140, communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network is established. At this point, the mobile computer terminal becomes part of the network and is able to transmit all of the data it receives directly to the host computer as soon as it receives it. At step 142, the at least one mobile computer terminal periodically checks if communications between the first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and the access point have been impeded. This may be asynchronous polling based on the detection of RF broadcast signals. Basically, the terminal listens and if it doesn't hear anything from the access point then it assumes communications have been impeded. At step 144, if communications not been impeded, the process returns to step 142 to continue periodically scanning for communications. If communications have been impeded, however, the process moves to step 146, where it is determined whether or not communications and association can be established between the first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and one of the other access points on the local network. If this can be accomplished immediately, there will likely be no loss of data. However, if communications and association cannot be established with any of the access points on the local network, the mobile computer terminal is cut off from the network, and there is a potential for the loss of important data.

At step 148, the transmission of data from the first of the at least one mobile computer terminals is halted. Then at step 150, any new data received by the first of the at least one mobile computer terminals is stored in memory in the mobile computer terminal. This prevents any data from being lost. Information regarding the freshness of the data is also stored at this point. This may comprise time stamping the data using an extra field in the data structure to store information as to the precise time the data was

received. The process then returns to step 146, where communications and association with any of the access points on the local network is again attempted. This loop continues until communications are re-established. Then at step 152, synchronization and reconciliation is performed to update the information stored in the mobile computer terminal to the host computer, along with the data freshness information so that the host computer may make proper determinations as to the data's reliability and ranking.

Synchronization and reconciliation may involve comparing the database on the mobile computer terminal with the database on the host computer, and updating information on both databases accordingly. For example, in the inventory example, if a sale was made on the mobile computer terminal during a period when the terminal was out of range, the host computer database will have to be updated with the number of units sold during the synchronization and reconciliation stage. Similarly, the mobile computer terminal database will have to be updated with information about the current inventory in case the inventory was adjusted (through sales from other mobile computer terminals or for other reasons) during the period that the terminal was out of range.

FIG. 8 is a diagram illustrating another embodiment of the present invention, utilizing other equipment in place of mobile computer terminals. This may include such peripherals as cellular phones 170, pagers 172, personal digital assistants 174, desktop computers 176, fax machines 178, phones 180 and voice mail machines 182. All communicate through one or more wireless networks 184, 186 to a host computer 188.

Another potential piece of equipment that may be used in place of or in conjunction with a mobile computer terminal is a portable multi-technology card reader. Currently, there are several different types of cards that require scanning or reading in order to access data or authenticate the card. These include credit cards, driver's licenses,

military identifications, and so on. Currently, the most popular type of card/scanning method is the swipe card. In these systems, the card is wiped through a machine which reads information off a magnetic stripe on the card. The information, however, may be encoded in many different ways. Additionally, there are several new types of cards emerging in the marketplace, including smart card and biometrics cards. Therefore, in another embodiment of the present invention, at least one of the network devices is a portable, multi-technology card reader capable of scanning any type of card. A host computer may then be configured to read specific types of cards and encoding schemes, such as PDF417 for cards and documents, magnetic stripe cards, smart cards, and even fingerprints. This allows for easy upgradeability when a new card technology or new encoding system is designed. The portable nature of the reader also permits more uses than previous card readers. For example, instead of a police officer taking a driver's license off a detained motorist and swiping it through a machine in his patrol car, he may instead simply scan the card using his portable scanner right at the motorist's car.

FIG. 9 is a diagram illustrating another embodiment of the present invention. This embodiment is similar to the one in FIG. 6. Here, however, the host computer has been removed, so the network allows direct communication from one peripheral 190 to another.

FIGS. 10A, 10B, 10C, and 11 illustrate another embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 10A is a diagram depicting a top view of a portable scanning device that may be used to scan and store data. Scanner 200 has a keyhole 202 for easy attachment to a keychain. By allowing the user to place the scanner on a keychain, the portability of the scanner increases, as it is much easier for a user to carry it around without losing what is potentially an expensive piece of equipment. The scanner is positioned so that the bar code symbol is in front of the scanner face 204. Then button 206 is depressed and the

symbol is scanned, with the data being stored in memory contained in the scanner. FIG. 10B is a diagram depicting a side view of the scanner. In this view, a keychain ring 208 with a key 210 attached is shown attached to the scanner 200. FIG. 10C is a diagram depicting a perspective view of the scanner. FIG. 11 is a diagram illustrating how the information on the memory chip is transferred to a host computer. The scanner 200 may be placed in a base unit 212, which may be connected to a computer terminal. This allows the information from the memory in the scanner 200 to be read out and transferred to whatever application the user deems necessary.

10 In another embodiment of the present invention, each mobile computer terminal may have a separate network address along with a display screen capable displaying a graphical image in a hypertext language (such as HTML). The host computer (or base unit, depending on the implementation) may have a second network address. The base unit may then transmit a message to the network address corresponding to the mobile computer terminal, the message being represented by a graphical image in a hypertext language. The mobile computer terminal may then interpret the message and automatically display the graphical image on the display.

20 This embodiment may be very helpful in such applications as pagers. Each of the pagers may be the mobile computer terminal with a display. When the user is paged, the display turns on revealing a hypertext language page. The page may contain information or graphics that the user should look at, or it may also contain a menu, wherein the user may select and be transferred to other web pages containing information. Using this mechanism, it is possible to use the pager for all sorts of different applications, such as receiving alphanumeric messages from family members, getting periodic updates on stock quotes or sports scores, or viewing graphical files sent from a business colleague. To that end, the mobile computer terminal may include a liquid crystal display (LCD).

The LCD could instead be used to display the current time or date if the designer so wishes. The display of time and date would be most practical in an embodiment used with a keychain.

5 The mobile computer terminals may also be configured as other commonly used peripherals, such as wireless IP phones. An example of this is the NetVision® wireless IP phone system from Symbol Technologies, Inc.

10 One problem that may arise in the utilization of batch mode, is that it is possible for resynchronization to take a great deal of time. This normally occurs when the user does not realize that he is out of range, and continues to input data into the mobile computer terminal as if it was still transmitting to the host computer. While the batch mode design prevents the loss of data, the more data that is entered during this "down time", the longer resynchronization will take when the mobile computer terminal is
15 brought back into range.

 To remedy this problem, the mobile computer terminal may be configured with an application that alerts the user when the mobile computer terminal goes out of range. This allows the user to realize that he is out of range before he inputs data into the
20 terminal. This application may be stored in firmware or a similar medium, where it may periodically check to make sure that there is still a valid link to an access point. Then, if the link has been broken, a message may be flashed on the display, such as "out of range". The user may then have discretion as to whether to input the data and have it stored in batch mode, or wait until the mobile computer terminal is brought back into
25 range, which would save on resynchronization time.

 Another problem that arises in the use of batch mode occurs when it is necessary

mobile computer terminal to send a message at a particular time. While this application has dealt mostly with the case where a mobile computer terminal cannot communicate with an access point because it is out of range, it should be recognized that the mobile computer terminal may not be able to communicate with an access point simply because it is in a "sleep mode. It is common for mobile computer terminals to have power conservation systems in order to save battery power. It is therefore typical for a mobile computer terminal to go into a "sleep" mode, where all its processing functions are shut down, when the mobile computer terminal is not used for a certain period of time. This presents a problem in cases where it is necessary for the mobile computer terminal to send a message at a certain time.

One example of this is in the limited leasing of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses. Generally, mobile computer terminals are granted an IP address on a network for only a limited amount of time. This is because the number of possible IP addresses is limited and most mobile computer terminals will only be using the network for a limited amount of time. Typically, a server assigns an IP address to the mobile computer terminal for a limited amount of time, and then specifies that if the user requires additional time, the user must beg for an extension at an appropriate time. For example, the user may be required to beg for an extension at a time exactly halfway through the initial leased period. If the use does not beg for an extension at that time, he may beg for an extension at a time halfway through the remaining time ($3/4$ of the way through the initial leased period), and if he doesn't beg at this time, at halfway through the remaining time ($7/8$ of the way through the initial leased period) and so on. At one minute remaining, the DHCP server may give up and disconnect the user.

The problem arises when the mobile computer terminal is in "sleep" mode when the time for begging arrives. This problem may be remedied by utilizing a timer or clock

in the mobile computer terminal. The computer terminal may program the timer or clock before it goes to "sleep" to wake it up at a specified time in order that it may send the begging message. The timer or clock utilizes very little power, and most mobile computer terminals already contain such a clock or timer used for other purposes. The

5 mobile computer first checks to determine if it is within range and, if not, displays a message to the user, resets the wake-up timers for the next "scheduled" beg time, and then goes to sleep. If the mobile computer is within range, it sends the lease renewal message and awaits a response from the DHCP leasing server. If the lease time has expired and the mobile computer cannot send a renewal or is not granted a renewal from

10 the DHCP server, the mobile computer disconnects its IP attachment and no longer uses the granted leased address. When the "sleeping" mobile computer who has surrendered its leased IP address is woken up by the user, the user is informed about a lost IP address and is given an option to reconnect to its host by first accessing the DHCP server for an IP address and reconnecting any active user application to the host computer.

15 Additionally, while this application refers to IP addressing, there are many other possible types of network addressing that this problem and solution may arise in as well.

While embodiments and applications of this invention have been shown and

20 described, it would be apparent to those skilled in the art that many more modifications than mentioned above are possible without departing from the inventive concepts herein. The invention, therefore, is not to be restricted except in the spirit of the appended claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal, wherein the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of:
- 10 configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer;
- 15 utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal;
- transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and
- 20 transferring said data structure to the host computer over the wireless communications network.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said configuring step includes the step of
- 25 receiving information about the data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer from the host computer over the wireless communications network.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said configuring step includes the step of configuring the operating characteristics to accept bar code symbol information.

5 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said bar code symbol information is received from a bar code symbol scanner attached to the at least one mobile computer terminal.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said configuring step includes the step of configuring the operating characteristics to accept alphanumeric information.

10 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said alphanumeric information is received from a keyboard attached to the at least one mobile computer terminal.

15 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one mobile computer terminal is a wireless IP phone.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one mobile computer terminal contains a display for showing the current time.

20 9. A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal, wherein the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile
25 computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of:

configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to

correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer;

utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data from bar code symbols at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program

5 running on the at least one mobile computer terminal;

transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and

10 transferring said data structure to the host computer over a wireless communications network.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said bar code symbols are received from a bar code symbol scanner attached to the at least one mobile computer terminal.

15 11. The method of claim 9, wherein said configuring step includes the step of configuring the operating characteristics to accept alphanumeric information.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said alphanumeric information is received from a keyboard attached to the at least one mobile computer terminal.

20 13. The method of claim 9, wherein said configuring step includes configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal so that it acts as a terminal emulator.

25 14. The method of claim 9, wherein said bar code symbols are PDF417 bar code symbols.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said configuring step further includes the step of sending information on the mode the mobile computer terminal should be in from the host computer to the mobile computer terminal.

- 5 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said sending step includes the steps of:
 sending a "0" if the mode should be disabled PDF417 scanning;
 sending a "1" if the mode should be contiguous mode only;
 sending a "2" if the mode should be large mode only; and
 sending a "3" if the mode should be separator mode only.

- 10 17. The method of claim 9, wherein said configuring step further includes the step of sending a signal from the mobile computer terminal to the host computer indicating that the mobile computer terminal is ready to begin scanning when the information regarding the mode of the mobile computer terminal is received and implemented by the mobile
 15 computer terminal.

18. The method of claim 9, wherein said at least one mobile computer terminal includes a display for showing the current time.

- 20 19. A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal, wherein the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, executes an application program for data collection, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, wherein the host computer executes an application program to update a database, the method comprising the steps
 25 of:

establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network; and

determining in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals, that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded and switching to batch mode to continue data collection.

5

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said batch mode comprises the steps of:
halting the transmission of data from said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals;

10 storing any new data received by said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals as well as information as to its freshness in memory in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals; and

transmitting all of said stored data and information as to its freshness to the host computer when communications and association between said first of the least one mobile computer terminals and any of said access points on said local network. is
15 reestablished.

21. The method of claim 19, further including the step of alerting the user that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded.

20

22. The method of claim 21, further including the step of giving the user the option of suspending the input of data while communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points are impeded.

25

23. A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal, wherein the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, executes an application program for data collection, and is connected to the

host computer through a wireless communications network, wherein the host computer executes an application program to update a database, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one
5 mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network;

periodically determining if communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and said first access point has been impeded;

establishing communications and association between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and another access point on said local network; and

10 switching to batch mode if no communications and association can be established between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and another access point on said local network.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said batch mode comprises the steps of:

15 halting the transmission of data from said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals;

storing any new data received by said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals as well as information as to its freshness in memory in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals; and

20 transmitting all of said stored data and information as to its freshness to the host computer when communications and association between said first of the least one mobile computer terminals and any of said access points on said local network. is reestablished.

25 25. The method of claim 23, further including the step of alerting the user that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded.

26. The method of claim 25, further including the step of giving the user the option of suspending the input of data while communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points are impeded.

5

27. A method for communication between a mobile computer terminal and a host computer in a system in which it is necessary for the mobile computer terminal to send a message to the host computer at a particular time, including the steps of:

10 determining the specific time at which the mobile computer terminal must send a message to the host computer;

programming a timer or clock to wake up the mobile computer terminal at said specific time;

entering a sleep mode; and

15 sending the message at said specific time.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein said system is a system utilizing the limited leasing of IP addresses and said message is a message begging for more time.

29. The method of claim 28, further including the steps of:

20 determining if the mobile computer is out of range of communications with the host computer; and

displaying a message on the mobile computer indicating to the user that the mobile computer must be brought back into range of communications with the host computer or else said leased IP address may be forfeited.

25

30. A keychain having a bar code scanner.

31. The keychain of claim 30, wherein said bar code reader has a hole designed such that the keychain may be passed through the hole, securing the bar code scanner to the keychain.

5 32. A wireless communications network including:

a mobile computer terminal having a first network address and a display screen, said display screen capable to displaying a graphical image in a hypertext language;

10 a base unit having a second network address, wherein said base unit is designed to transmit a message to a network address corresponding to said mobile computer terminal, said message being represented by a graphical image in a hypertext language; and

said mobile computer terminal designed to interpret said message and to automatically display said graphical image on said display.

15 33. A computer network including:

a mobile computer terminal including a portable, multi-technology card scanner;

a transmission medium; and

20 a host computer configured to receive data from said mobile computer terminal over said transmission medium and interpret the data according to specifications regarding the type of card scanned.

34. The computer network of claim 33, wherein said mobile computer terminal further includes a fingerprint scanner.

25

ABSTRACT

A method for communication between a host computer and at least one mobile computer terminal which provides an efficient way of running a computer network where the at least one mobile computer terminal operates at a remote site, has selectable operating characteristics, and is connected to the host computer through a wireless communications network, and wherein the host computer executes an application program in which data is entered from the at least one mobile computer terminal and processed by the application program, the method comprising the steps of: configuring the operating characteristics of the mobile computer terminal to correspond to data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; utilizing the at least one mobile computer terminal to automatically acquire data at the remote site in response to a data acquisition program running on the at least one mobile computer terminal; transforming the acquired data into a data structure in the mobile computer terminal in accordance with said data field characteristics required by the application program running on the host computer; and transferring said data structure to the host computer over the wireless communications network.

The method also provides for a way to ensure that the application program running on the host computer handles data received from the at least one mobile computer terminals when one of the mobile computer terminals goes out of range of the wireless network, comprising the steps of: establishing communications and association between a first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and a first access point on a local network; determining in said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals, that communications between said first of the at least one mobile computer terminals and all other access points have been impeded and switching to batch mode to continue data collection.

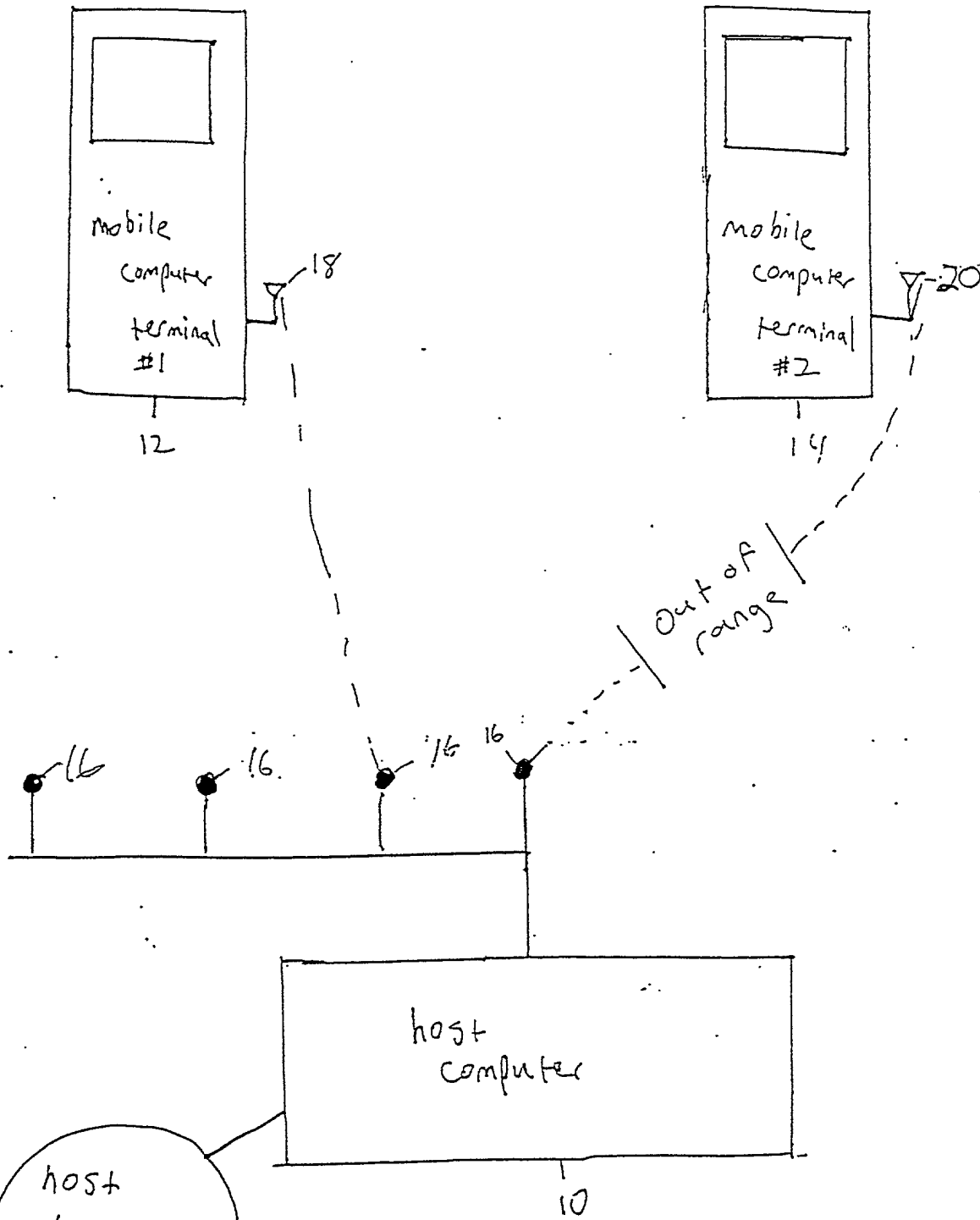
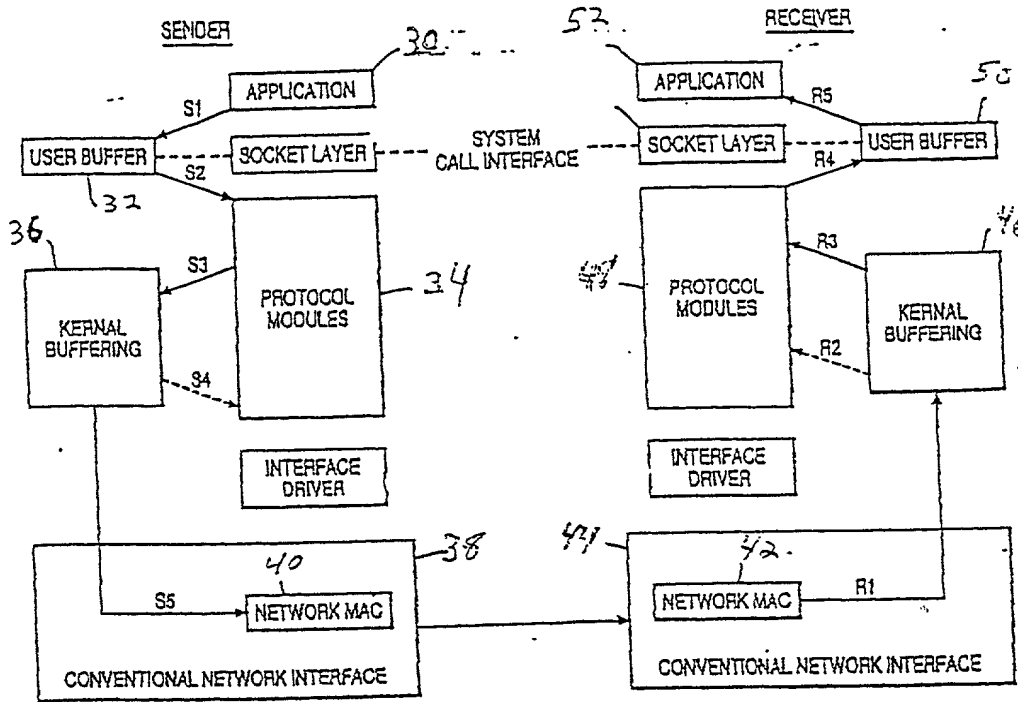


FIG. 1



F16.2

Hex	Dec			
0	0	Ethernet Header (14 bytes)	01	Target Ethernet Address (6 bytes)
1	1		02	
2	2		03	
3	3		04	
4	4		05	
5	5		06	
6	6		07	Source Ethernet Address (6 bytes)
7	7		08	
8	8		09	
9	9		0a	
a	10	IP Header (20 bytes)	0b	Protocol Type (0x0800 = IP)
b	11		0c	
c	12		08	Version = 4, IP Header Len (Words) = 5
d	13		00	
e	14		45	Service Type
f	15		00	
10	16		00	Total Length = 0x001d (29 bytes: 20-byte IP Header plus 8-byte UDP header plus 1-byte user data)
11	17		1d	
12	18		e0	Datagram Id = 0xe0a1
13	19		a1	
14	20	UDP Header (8 bytes)	40	Flag 0x4 DO_NOT_FRAGMENT
15	21		00	
16	22		00	Fragment Offset = 0x000
17	23		40	
18	24		11	Time-to-Live = 0x40
19	25		11	
1a	26		da	IP Protocol = 0x11 (UDP)
1b	27		1b	
1c	28		80	IP Header Checksum = 0xda1b
1d	29		01	
1e	30	User Data (Variable)	c0	IP Address of Source = 128.1.192.7
1f	31		07	
20	32		80	
21	33		01	IP Address of Destination = 128.1.192.8
22	34		c0	
23	35		08	
24	36		00	Source Port = 0x0007 (echo datagram)
25	37		07	
26	38		30	Destination Port = 0x3018
27	39		18	
28	40	UDP Header (8 bytes)	00	UDP Length = 0x0009 (8-byte UDP Header plus 1-byte user data)
29	41		09	
2a	42		0c	UDP Checksum = 0x0cf8
			f8	
			67	1 byte user datagram = "g"

Fig. 3

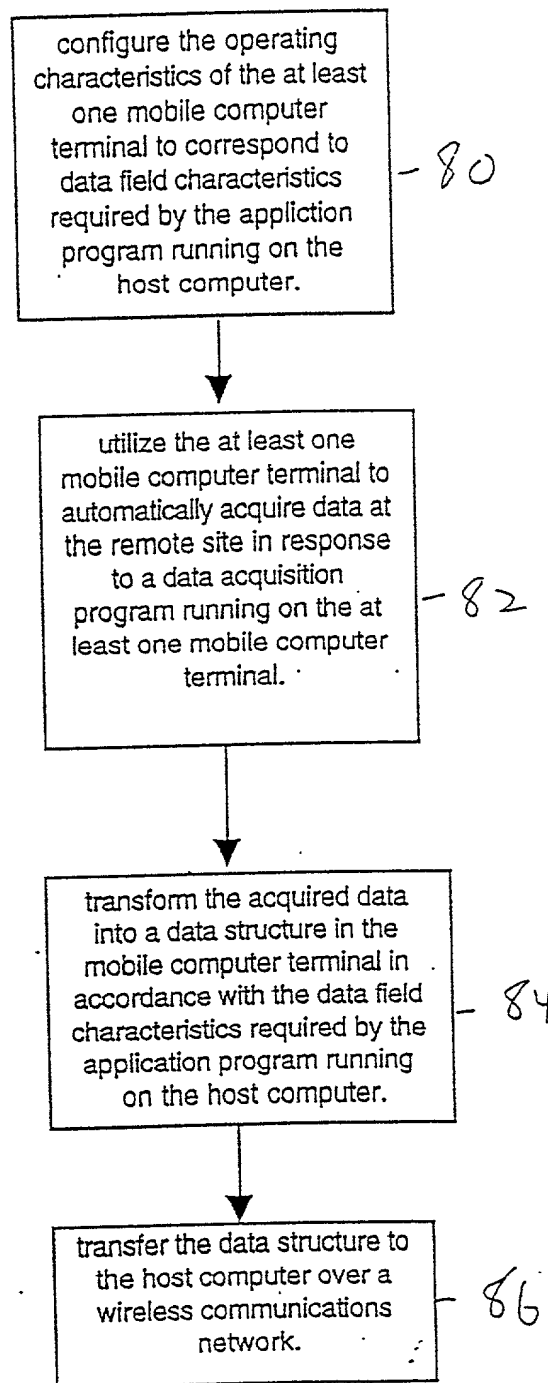


FIG. 4

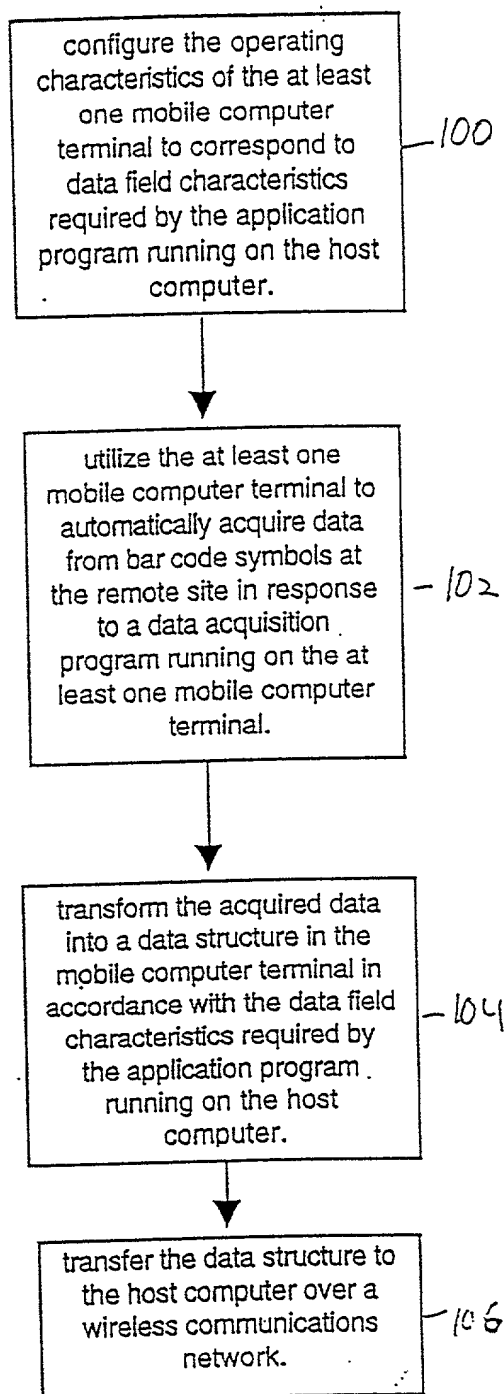


FIG. 5

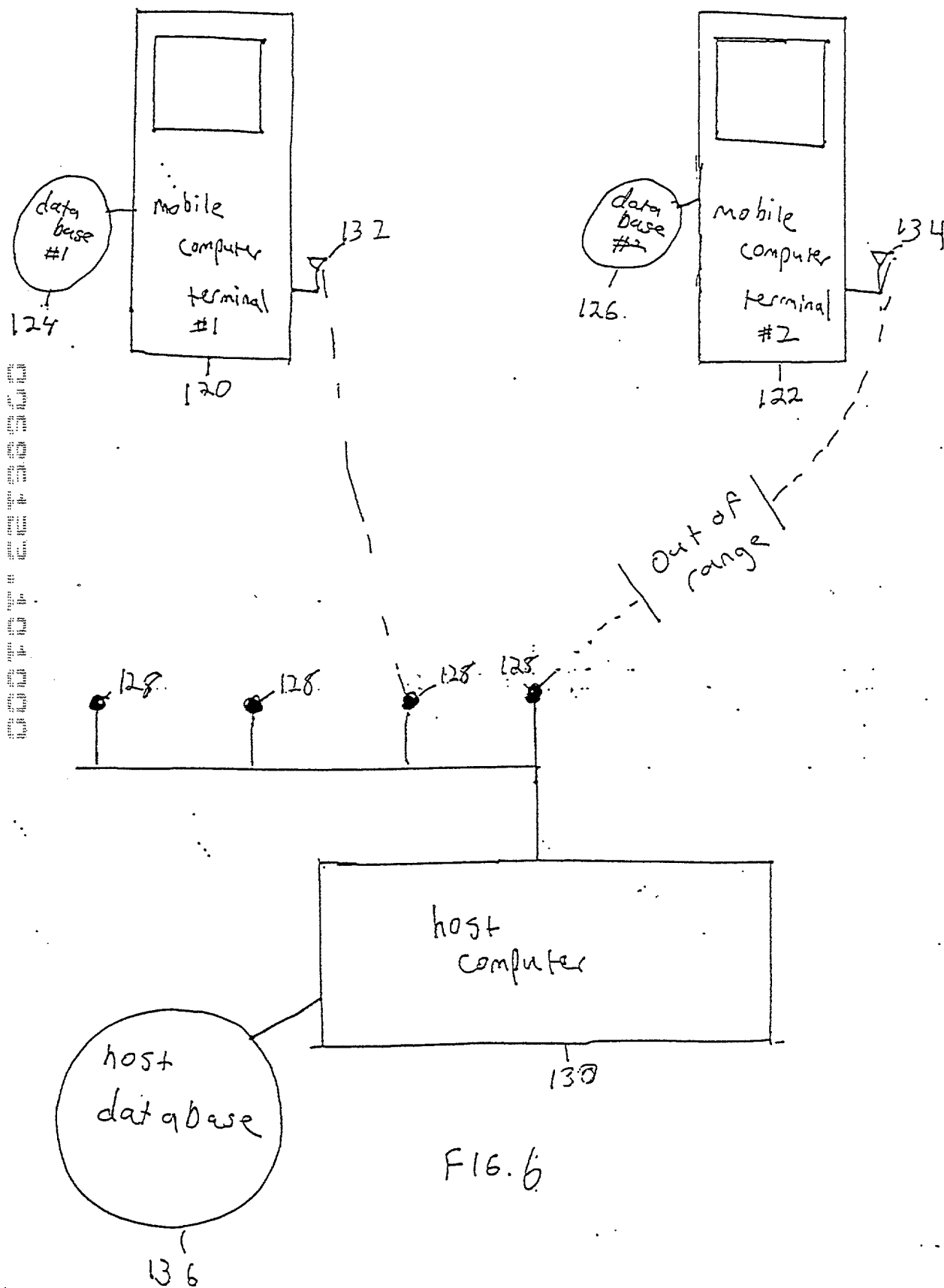


FIG. 6

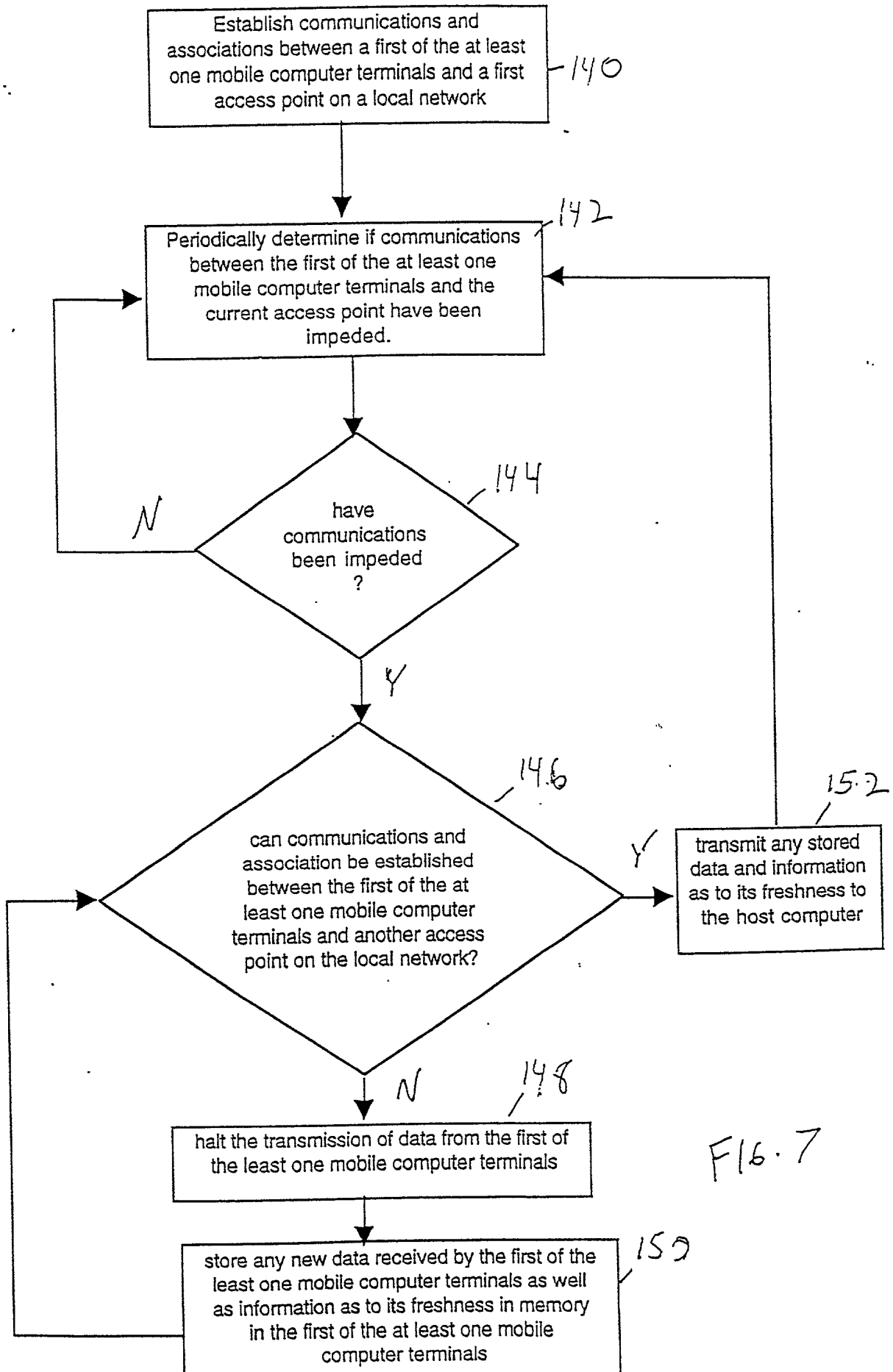


FIG. 7

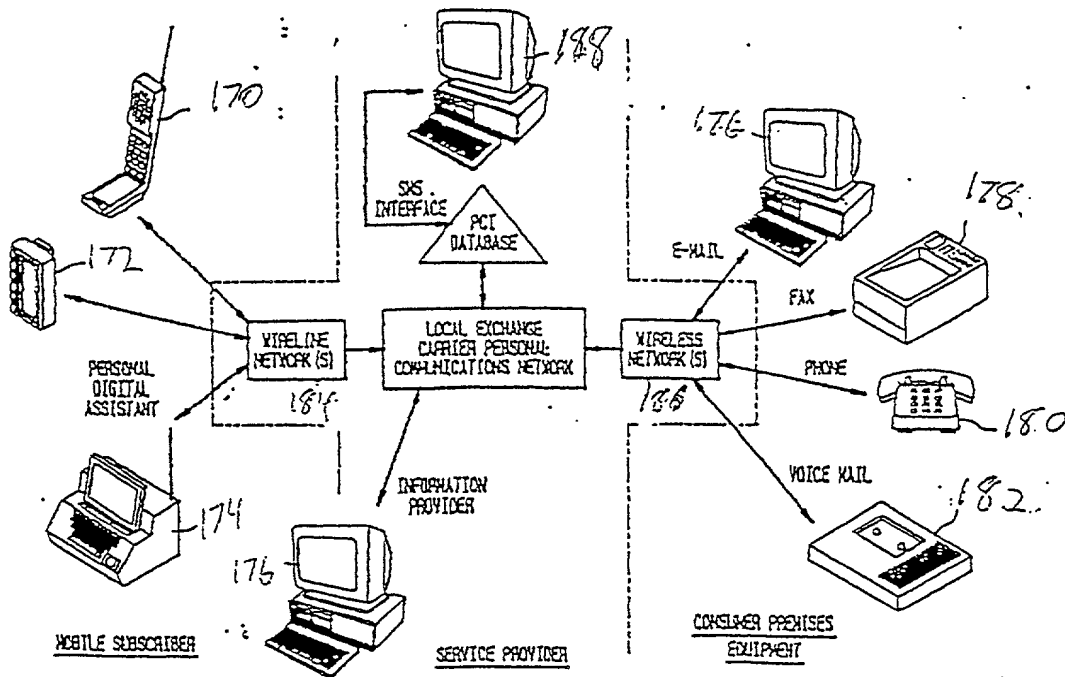
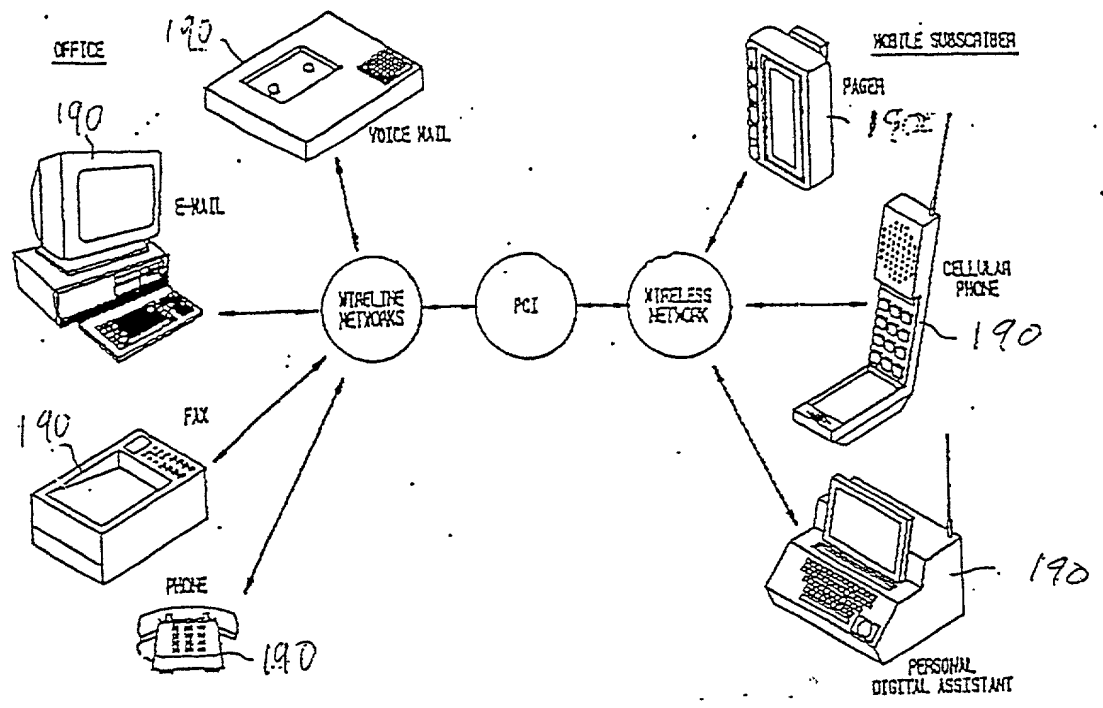
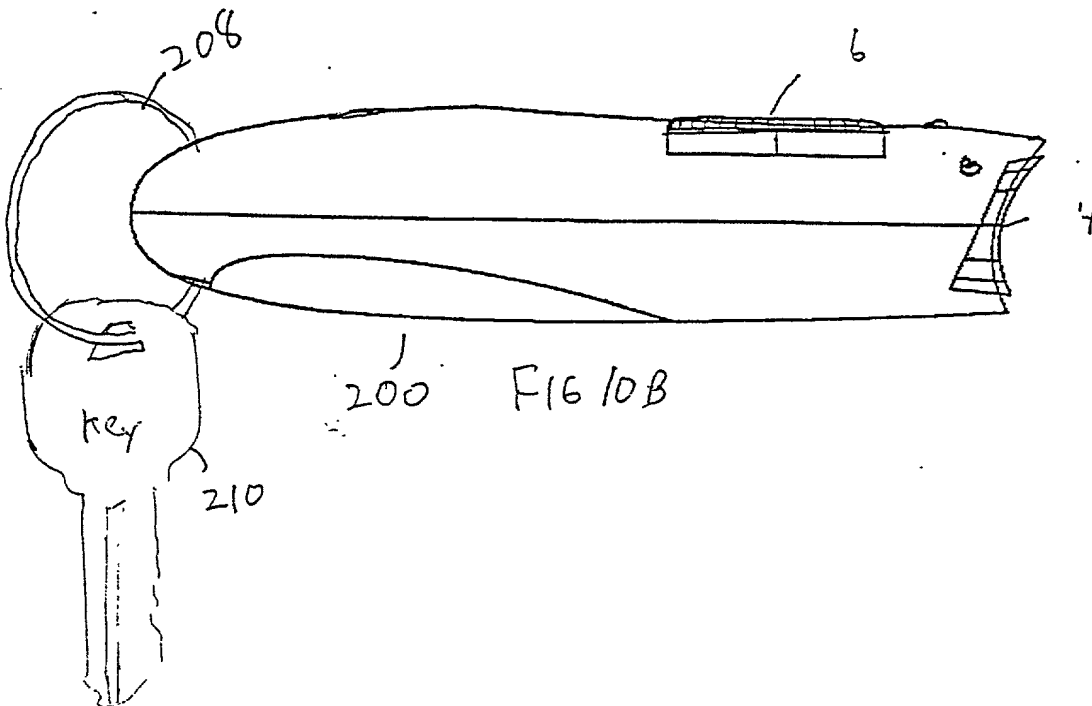
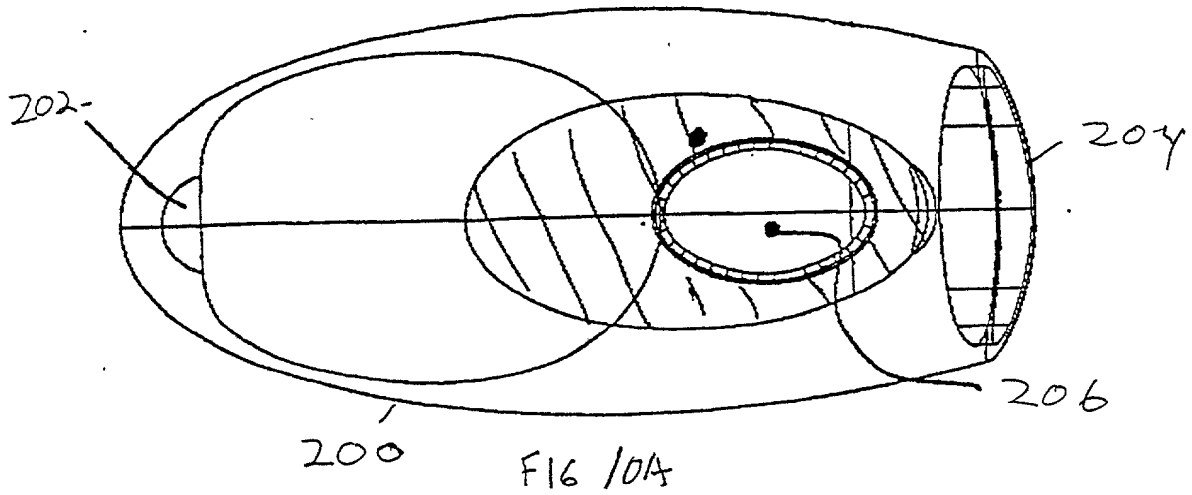


FIG. 8



F16. 9



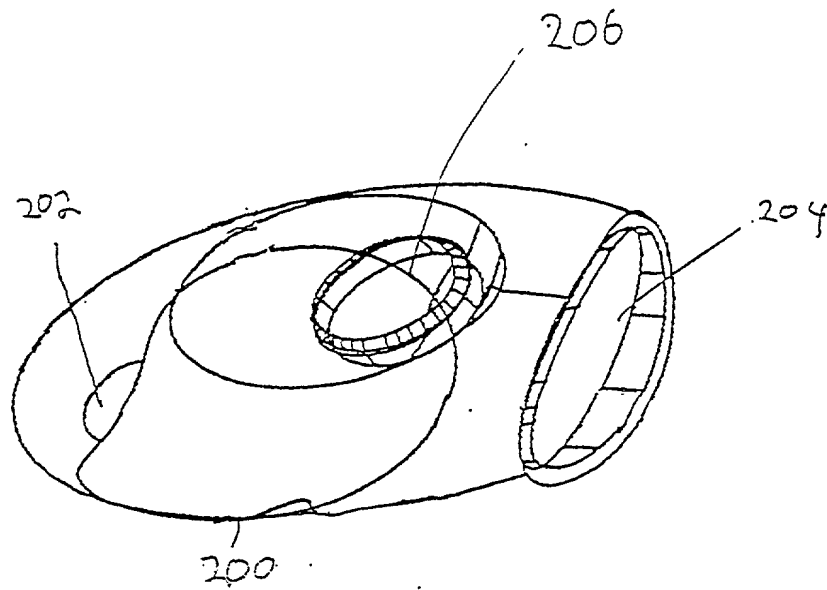


FIG. 10C



FIG. 11

PATENT

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe the below named inventors are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "**DATA RECONCILIATION BETWEEN A COMPUTER AND A MOBILE DATA COLLECTION TERMINAL**" the specification of which:

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on October 5, 1998 as Application Serial No. 09/166,816.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Priority
Claimed

(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No
----------	-----------	--------------	--------

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States Application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 156, which become available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
--------------------------	---------------	----------

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:
Daniel R. McGlynn, Reg. No. 26,570, Marc Hannish, Reg. No. 42,626

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San Jose, CA 95164
(408) 441-1100

I hereby declare that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Daniel R. McGlynn, a principal attorney of record in the application for United States Letters Patent for an invention entitled:

Data Reconciliation Between A Computer And A Mobile Data Collection Terminal

invented by: Alex M. Gernert, Richard S. Walters, Daniel L. Scheve, Allan Herrod, John R. Klein,

Nathaniel R. Gold, Robert Sanders, Altaf Mulla, Gregory G. Jones, James Fuccello and Donald E. Schaefer

☐ executed on even date herewith, or

x having serial No. 09/166,816, filed October 5, 1998,


do(es) hereby appoint Kenneth D'Alessandro, Registration No. 29,144, David B. Ritchie, Registration No. 31,562, Jonathan H. Schafer, Registration No. 36,915, Stephen R. Uriarte, Registration No. 40,854, Sean P. Lewis, Registration No. 42,798, Marc S. Hanish, Registration No. 42,626 and John P. Schaub, Registration No. 42,125 as attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and certifies that it is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of an assignment, a copy of which is attached, from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above.

Please send all correspondence and direct all telephone calls to:

Kenneth D'Alessandro
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The undersigned has reviewed all the documents in the chain of title of the patent application identified above and, to the best of undersigned's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee identified above.

I, the undersigned, declare that I am authorized to make this appointment on behalf of the assignee I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom.



Signature

Daniel R. McGlynn

Print Name

2/19/99

Date

Attorney for Applicant

Title